

AMENDMENT OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A soft capsule shell composition comprising:
 - (a) a high acyl gellan gum having more than 40% acetyl and more than 45% glyceryl residual substituents per repeat unit ;
 - (b) a low acyl gellan gum having less than 25% acetyl and less than 15% glyceryl residual substituents per repeat unit;
 - (c) a starch; and
 - (d) a plasticizer.
2. (canceled) .
3. (canceled)
4. (currently amended) The composition capsule of claim 1, wherein the high acyl gellan gum is present in an amount of from about 0.3 to about 5.0% and the low acyl gellan gum is present in an amount of from about 0.1 to about 4% by weight of the composition on a wet basis.
5. (canceled)
6. (canceled)
7. (currently amended) The capsule composition of claim 1, wherein the ratio of high acyl gellan to low acyl gellan is from about 0.25:1.0 to about 30.0:1.0.
8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) The capsule composition of claim 1, wherein the starch is an amylose containing starch.

10. (currently amended) The capsule composition of claim 9, wherein the starch is a stabilized starch.

11. (currently amended) The capsule composition of claim 10, wherein the starch is selected from the group consisting of a hydroxypropylated starch, a hydroxyethylated starch, an acetylated starch, and mixtures thereof.

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) The capsule of claim 4, ~~The composition of claim 1,~~ wherein the starch is a dextrinized starch.

14. (currently amended) The capsule of claim 4, ~~The composition of claim 1,~~ wherein the starch is present in an amount of from about 15% to about 40%, by weight of the composition on a wet film basis.

15. (currently amended) The capsule of claim 7, ~~The composition of claim 8,~~ wherein the starch is present in an amount of from about 15% to about 40%, by weight of the composition on a wet film basis.

16. (currently amended) The capsule of claim 11, ~~The composition of claim 11,~~ wherein the starch is present in an amount of from about 15% to about 40%, by weight of the composition on a wet film basis.

17. (currently amended) The capsule ~~The composition~~ of claim 1, wherein the plasticizer is glycerin and is present in an amount of from about 30 to 80% by weight of the starch.

18. (currently amended) The capsule of claim 4, The composition of claim 8, wherein the plasticizer is glycerin and is present in an amount of from about 30 to 80% by weight of the starch.

19. (currently amended) The capsule of claim 7, The composition of claim 11, wherein the plasticizer is glycerin and is present in an amount of from about 30 to 80% by weight of the starch.

20. (currently amended) The capsule ~~The composition~~ of claim 1, further comprising hydrophilic or surface hydrophilically modified colloidal particles.

21. (currently amended) The capsule of claim 4, The composition of claim 8, further comprising hydrophilic or surface hydrophilically modified colloidal particles.

22. (currently amended) The capsule of claim 7, The composition of claim 11, further comprising hydrophilic or surface hydrophilically modified colloidal particles.

23. (canceled)

24. (currently amended) The A capsule shell of claim 4 comprising

(a) ~~a high acyl gelling gum;~~

(b) ~~a low acyl gelling gum;~~

(c) ~~a starch; and~~

(d) ~~a plasticizer,~~

~~wherein the high acyl gellan gum is present in an amount of from about 0.3 to about 5% by weight of the composition on a wet basis and the low acyl gellan gum is present in an amount of from about 0.1 to about 4% by weight of the composition on a wet basis and wherein the ratio of high acyl gellan to low acyl gellan is from about 0.25:1.0 to about 30.0:1.0.~~

25. (currently amended) The A capsule shell of claim 24 comprising

~~(a) a high acyl gellan gum;~~

~~(b) a low acyl gellan gum;~~

~~(c) a starch; and~~

~~(d) a plasticizer~~

wherein the starch is a stabilized amylose containing starch selected from the group consisting of a hydroxypropylated starch, a hydroxyethylated starch, an acetylated starch, and mixtures thereof.

26. (new) The capsule shell of claim 1 wherein the starch has a water fluidity of from about 20 to 90.